# SUPERFUND Fact Sheet

## NORTHWEST PIPE AND CASING

### Clackamas, Oregon

EPA U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY May 2001

## Proposed Cleanup Plan for Groundwater: EPA Invites your Comments

*In this fact sheet you will find a summary of the proposed cleanup plan and ways to participate in the decision-making process. The proposed plan and related documents are available for review. EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss the plan if sufficient interest is expressed.*

### How You Can Participate

Public input is an important contribution to the selection of an alternative. EPA will consider public comments received during the comment period before choosing a final action for the site.

### What is the Environmental Problem?

Soil and groundwater on the site are contaminated as a result of past waste handling practices from former pipe manufacturing and coating facilities. Contaminants include spent solvents, primers, coal tar, coating product containers, coal tar residues, and oils.

### What will the Groundwater Cleanup Accomplish?

- **Prevent human exposure** to groundwater with contaminants in excess of EPA and state health-protective standards.
- **Restore and maintain use** of the upper aquifer as a potential source of drinking water by treating groundwater to remove the contaminants.
- **Prevent off-site movement** of contaminated groundwater.

### Comments due by June 18

**EPA will accept written comments** on the Proposed Plan from **May 17 to June 18, 2001.**

Written comments should be addressed to:
**Alan Goodman**, Project Manager
U.S. EPA
811 SW Sixth Avenue, 3rd Floor
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503 326-3685
Fax: 503 326-3399
E-Mail: goodman.al@epa.gov

### You can request a public meeting

EPA will host a public meeting if sufficient interest is expressed. To request a public meeting, send a written request to the address above or call Alan Goodman at 503 326-3685 before May 24, 2001.

The Proposed Cleanup Plan includes the following actions:

- ***Installing In-situ* air stripping** wells to clean contaminated groundwater. About ten wells will be installed in four areas of the site to treat high levels of volatile organic chemicals (VOC's). Stripping wells also will be installed in the vicinity of Lawnfield Road if necessary to prevent the movement of contaminated groundwater beyond the site.

- **Monitoring groundwater** to evaluate the effectiveness of *in-situ* air stripping and measure the progress towards achieving groundwater cleanup goals;

- **Controlling erosion** during construction of the *In-situ* air stripping wells to minimize the amount of soil going into Dean and Mt. Scott Creeks. Excessive sediment threatens the quality of these water bodies which are critical habitat for several threatened fish specie;

- **Establishing institutional controls**, which are legal measures such as deed restrictions or restrictive covenants, to restrict access to groundwater until it is safe again for human use.

These actions comprise EPA's Preferred Alternative shown as G-3b in the proposed plan. The air stripping wells are expected to remove most of the contamination in the groundwater source areas (the most heavily contaminated areas) within five to ten years. However, this time period is uncertain because this is a new technology and it is difficult to predict how quickly contaminants will be removed, before operation starts. An additional fifty years may be necessary before all of the groundwater at the site meets the cleanup goals.

## What other alternatives did EPA consider?

A **no action** scenario is included in the Proposed Plan for a basis of comparison only.

EPA evaluated technologies to treat source areas and to prevent contaminants from spreading beyond the site. EPA developed nine alternatives by combining the following technologies:

- **Natural attenuation**: Several natural processes change or destroy chemical substances. This approach focuses on the verification and monitoring of natural remediation processes rather than relying totally on "engineered" processes.

- **In-Situ Air Stripping:** Air is injected into groundwater at the bottom of the stripping well. As the air bubbles rise up through the well, the VOCs are removed from groundwater into the vapor. Contaminated vapors are then collected and treated at the surface. (Figure 2 illustrates how the Air Stripping process works).

- **Pump and Treat**: Extraction wells remove contaminated groundwater from below ground. Water is pumped to an above-ground air stripper where VOCs are taken out. The treated water is discharged into a drainage channel.

## How do the costs compare?

Constructing the preferred alternative will cost about $1,600,000. Operation and maintenance will cost $194,000 per year. The estimated total costs are between $3,710,000 and $4,141,000, depending on how long the air stripping wells are used. Total costs of the other alternatives range from $1 million for monitored natural attenuation to $4.2 million for site-wide pumping and treatment.

## Site Background

The NW Pipe and Casing/Hall Process Company Superfund Site is in Clackamas, Oregon. For EPA's investigation, the 53-acre site was divided into two parts, parcel A (21 acres) and parcel B (32 acres). (See figure 1 below)

Final decisions about cleaning up the soil at this site have already been made. Soil cleanup actions were selected by EPA in June 2000 after considering public comments. Phase 1 will involve removing the most highly contaminated soil for off-site treatment or disposal at a permitted landfill. Phase 2 will include placing a clean soil cap over the undeveloped part of the site. Construction of Phase 1 is scheduled to start in the summer 2001, pending the availability of funds.

The primary contaminants in soil at the site include polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), both of which are carcinogens. Chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are the principal contaminants in groundwater beneath the plant site.

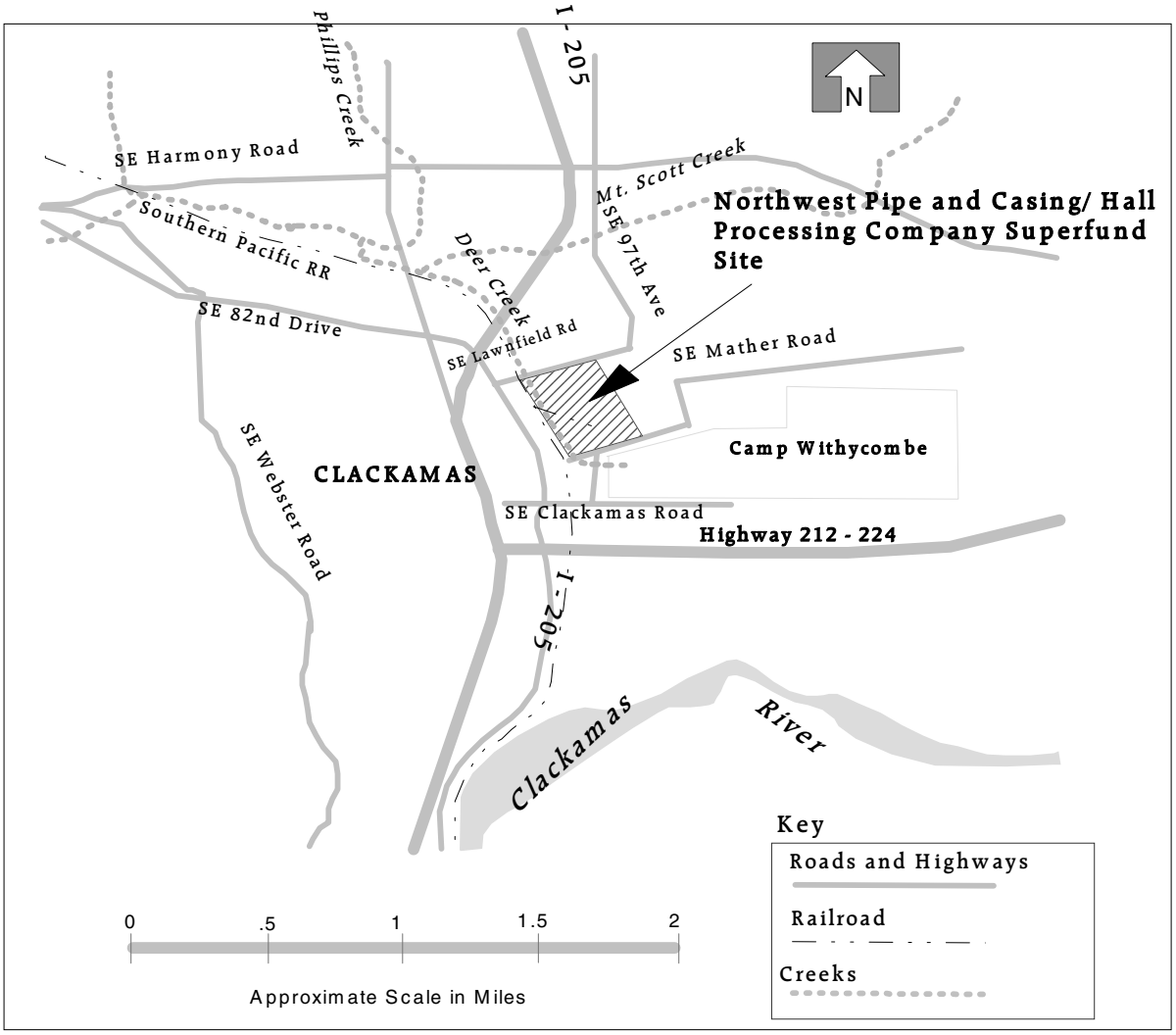


Figure 1

## Where to find Information?

Copies of the Proposed Plan, Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, and other information are available for your review at the following locations:

In Seattle:
US EPA Records Center
1200 6th Avenue, 7th Floor
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 553-4494

In Portland:
Clackamas County Library
11750 SE 82nd Avenue, Suite D
Clackamas, Oregon
(503) 652-2640
The library is at the NE corner of the Clackamas Town Center Mall parking lot.

EPA Oregon Office
811 SW 6th Ave 3rd Floor
Portland, OR 97204
(503) 326-3250

To request a copy of the Proposed Plan call: **Lilibeth Serrano** at (206) 553-1388 or 1-800 424-4372 x 1388 or email: SerranoVelez.Lilibeth@epa.gov

To find the Proposed Plan on the Web visit: **www.epa.gov/r10earth**, first click on "index," then on "N" for Northwest Pipe and Casing.

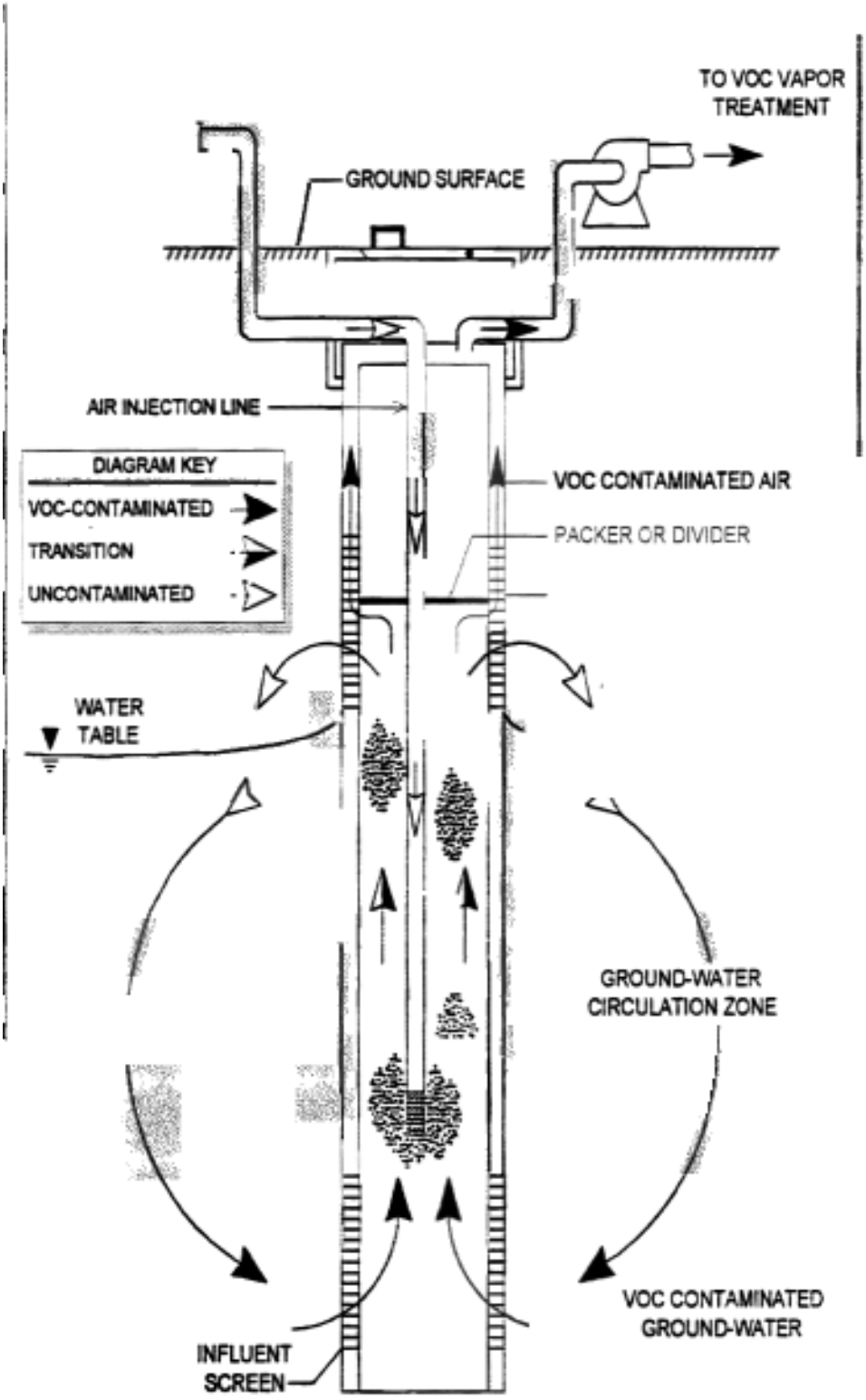


FIGURE 2

IN WELL VAPOR STRIPPING PROCESS

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Region 10 (ECO-081)
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle WA 98101

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## Northwest Pipe and Casing
## Clackamas, Oregon